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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/775,394	02/10/2004	Keith Robinson	108298554US2	8893
25096	7590	08/29/2006	EXAMINER	
PERKINS COIE LLP			PATEL, PARESH H	
PATENT-SEA			ART UNIT	
P.O. BOX 1247			2829	
SEATTLE, WA 98111-1247			PAPER NUMBER	

DATE MAILED: 08/29/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/775,394	ROBINSON, KEITH	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Paresh Patel	2829	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 August 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 17-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 17-31 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 32-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see pages 7-11 of Remarks, filed 08/07/2006, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 32-41 under 102(b) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Blandin and Neiderhofer.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 32-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Blandin (US 4782291) and Neiderhofer (US 5387861).

Regarding claims 32, 36-37 and 41 Blandin discloses a method of making a testing device, comprising: coupling a load board [105] to a base member [106, 108 and 109];

removably coupling multiple electrically conductive first contacts [112] to the base member, the first contacts having first portions [112 towards 108] that are thereby operatively coupled to the load board [105 via 106] and second portions [112 towards 110] that are operatively couplable to multiple second contacts [85 and 83 via 111];

operatively coupling the second contacts [85 and 83] to the second portions of the first contacts [112]; and

an electrical socket device [80] to receive a device to be tested [DUT].

Blandin discloses all the elements but is silent about configuring **at least one pin receptacle** to be operatively couplable to at least one of the second contacts and **to receive pins of an electrical socket device**. Neiderhofer discloses programmable burn-in board with different embodiments as shown in fig. 4, 9-11 and fig. 12-16. Neiderhofer discloses configuring at least one pin receptacle [13 of 2] to be operatively couplable to at least one of the second contacts [16, see fig. 4] and to receive pins [pins of socket 32, lines 54-55 of column 3, as an example] of an electrical socket device [32], in order to provide independent voltage, signal and circuit component programmability for different package types of integrated circuits on a socket. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the socket 80 and DUT card 81 of Blandin with receptacle 13 and socket pins as taught by Neiderhofer, in order to obtain, and as mention above, the advantages that Neiderhofer has to offer (also see lines 55-65 of column 1).

Regarding claims 33 and 38, Blandin discloses a clamp [110] as further claimed.

Regarding claims 34 and 39, Blandin discloses a friction between second portion of the first contact and the second contact [contact between 111 of 112 and bottom of 83] as further claimed.

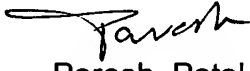
Regarding claims 35 and 40, Neiderhofer discloses operably coupling [via 14] the at least one pin receptacle [13] to the at least one of the second contacts [16].

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paresh Patel whose telephone number is 571-272-1968. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 to 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ha Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-1678. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

 08/24/06
Paresh Patel
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2829

August 24, 2006